

Message Text

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16

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CU-05 DRC-01 IO-14 OMB-01 AID-20

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07

PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 EUR-25 NIC-01

COME-00 EB-11 IGA-02 TRSE-00 ABF-01 /170 W

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P 080531Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6799

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PHNOM PENH 9097

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, PINS, CB

SUBJECT: FAA SECTION 32 - POLITICAL PRISONERS

REF: STATE 135799

1. IN ACCORDANCE INSTRUCTIONS REFTTEL, DCM CALLED ON FOREIGN MINISTRY SECRETARY GENERAL NGUON CHHAY KRY JULY 8 AND DELIVERED NOTE GIVING TEXT OF SECTION 32. NOTE POINTED OUT THAT WHILE SECTION 32 IS NOT A MANDATORY REQUIREMENT UPON PRESIDENT, IT DOES EXPRESS STRONG INTENT AND PURPOSE OF AMERICAN CONGRESS AND FOR THAT REASON IT COULD AFFECT FUTURE APPROPRIATION OF AMERICAN ASSISTANCE FUNDS. NOTE STATED THAT SECTION 32 THEREFORE DESERVES SERIOUS CONSIDERATION BY GKR. NOTE IN ADDITION POINTED OUT THAT GKR IS NOT ONLY GOVERNMENT BEING APPROACHED ON THIS SUBJECT, AS ALL EA AID RECIPIENTS ARE BEING INFORMED OF CONGRESSIONAL PROVISION AND ITS POSSIBLE IMPLICATIONS. COPY NOTE BEING POUCHED EA/LC.

2. DCM MADE FOLLOWING POINTS ORALLY: (A) CONGRESSIONAL INTEREST IN THIS SUBJECT IS INTENSE, CONTINUES TO RISE AND IS FOCUSED SPECIFICALLY ON WHETHER USG SHOULD
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CONTINUE ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS IN COUNTRIES HOLDING

PRISONERS FOR POLITICAL REASONS: (B) WHILE IN EMBASSY'S
OPINION GKR RECORD ON THIS SCORE IS A GOOD ONE, PAR-
TICULARLY FOR A NATION IN THROES OF A BITTER WAR,
SITUATIONS SUCH AS CONTINUED DETENTION WITHOUT TRIAL
OF FIVE STUDENTS ARRESTED MAY 26 ARE OF A KIND THAT
ATTRACT INTERNATIONAL ATTENTION TO DETRIMENT GKR
CAUSE, ESPECIALLY DURING CURRENT CONGRESSIONAL HEARINGS
ON FOREIGN ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS; (C) LEGISLATION DOES
NOT DEFINE "POLITICAL PRISONERS", A DIFFICULT TASK
AT BEST, BUT WE GENERALLY REFER TO STANDARDS ENJOYING
INTERNATIONAL APPROVAL AND RESPECT SUCH AS ARTICLE 9
OF UN DECLARATION ON HUMAN RIGHTS (WHICH DCM EXPLAINED
IN FURTHER DETAIL).

3. SEC GEN EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR NOTIFICATION.
HE COMMENTED WITH SPECIFIC REFERENCE TO DETENTION
OF STUDENTS THAT GOVERNMENT HAD LABELLED ARRESTED
STUDENTS "COMMUNISTS" AND THIS WOULD GIVE THAT SITUATION
A POLITICAL CAST. SEC GEN SAID THAT HE THOUGHT COMMUNISTS
HAD CERTAINLY TAKEN ADVANTAGE OF STUDENT UNREST TO
FOMENT TROUBLE,BUT ARRESTED STUDENTS SHOULD BE TRIED
FOR VIOLATIONS OF LAW OR RELEASED, NOT HELD FOR
"POLITICAL" REASONS.
DEAN

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Message Attributes

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Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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